Raglan Area School
Surfing Academy Information

What is the Surfing Academy?

The ‘Raglan Surfing Academy’ is a highly competitive, nationally recognised programme run directly through Raglan Area School. It is designed to blend surf coaching and elite athletic training with mainstream secondary school education.

Core Details & Structure

- **Target Audience:** Open strictly to senior high school students in **Years 11, 12, and 13**.
- **Academic Integration:** Students undergo elite surf coaching and high-performance physical training while simultaneously completing their standard **NCEA qualifications**.
- **The Living Classroom:** The curriculum utilises Raglan’s world-class point breaks and surrounding beaches as a primary training ground.
- **Events:** On the weekends, the academy frequently travels to junior circuit events in the North Island.

Surfing Academy Course Introduction

The Surfing Academy Course will be offered as a school subject to Year 11, 12 and 13 students who will be in attendance at Raglan Area School.
Entry into the Academy is unrestricted geographically. That is, any qualifying student may apply.
The course will be restricted to highly motivated students who have a strong desire to succeed in surfing and schoolwork, preferably those with a high level of competence in surfing.

Aims of The Surfing Academy

1. For the students to successfully achieve their NCEA school qualifications to their highest ability.
2. To provide professional coaching to enable students to achieve the highest level of competitive surfing possible.
3. To increase the students' level of fitness and develop their physical ability to reach peak performance.

How to Apply

Because of its high-performance focus, placement is limited and requires a formal application process.

- Windows open in September for the following academic year.
- Students who wish to apply for the Surfing Academy will need to send the required documentation to the school. This will include:
    - The Application Form. Download and print here:
    - Application Personal Details Form.
    - This requires:
        - The applicant's Mid-Year Report.
        - An applicant's letter about themselves and why they want to be in the Academy
        - Details of an Academic Referee
        - Details of a Sporting Referee
        - Parent signature endorsing the application

- Post a physical copy of the above documents to:
  Surfing Academy. Raglan Area School. 42 Norrie Avenue, Raglan, 3225
- This will need to be received by **November 1st.**

If you require further information, email the instructors at deane_hishon@raglanarea.school.nz or larry_fisher@raglanarea.school.nz

As places in the Academy are limited, all applicants who meet the required criteria will go through an interview process with the Academy teachers Deane Hishon and Larry Fisher. These interviews are conducted from late November to early December.

Successful applicants are then advised to sign the Surfing Academy Enrolment Agreement, which stipulates that the enrolment is for Term One only, with a meeting to review progress in April of that academic year.

Staff
Academy students have 2 surfing coaches/teachers: Larry Fisher and Deane Hishon. Academy students will have specialist teachers for their other school subjects.

Accommodation
For students who are from out of town, a Home Stay Coordinator will help establish a support network, with families and their local host families. The Coordinator will find appropriate accommodation for the students. A stable and supportive home environment is essential if students are to succeed in their studies and surfing.

The Bus
The Academy transport is a modified bus for the use of Academy students. It has a large waterproof surfboard and wetsuit storage bay that doubles as a changing room.

Students will be transported out to the point breaks or the surrounding beaches and home again by bus on their surfing days. The bus will also travel to all North Island Junior Circuit Surfing Competitions that fall in the school term.

SURFING ACADEMY TEACHERS

Academy students have 2 surfing coaches/teachers: Deane Hishon and Larry Fisher.

Deane is originally from the Bay of Plenty. His Father was in the 'Point Board Riders' in the early 60s and as soon as Deane was of age, he moved to Raglan for its consistency. Deane was drawn to Raglan's great waves and took a job at Raglan Area School in 1997. Deane Hishon was the main driving force in establishing the Surfing Academy at Raglan Area School where he saw a real need for professional surf coaching for young aspiring surfers in the community. It was set up and trialled in 1998, and
the rest is history, with the programme and success of the students going from strength to strength. Deane has 35 years of coaching experience and has won the New Zealand Masters and still competes today. Deane has also coached New Zealand Junior teams in the past.

Larry moved to Raglan from Piha in 2002 to work alongside Deane in the Academy. Before working at Raglan, he worked as an Intermediate teacher in West Auckland for four years after he completed his Bachelor of Education and Diploma of Teaching. Larry has a real passion for working with young people and helping them reach their surfing and academic potential. Larry has come from a competitive surfing background. He has been competing on the N.Z. circuit since he was 16. He has won N.Z. circuit events, made four Open Men's National finals, as well as winning the New Zealand Senior

Championships on two occasions. Larry represented New Zealand on three occasions at world events. He was also the New Zealand Junior Team Coach for the World Junior Surfing Championships from 2005-2010 and 2019.

Role of the Homestay Coordinator:
The role of the homestay coordinator is to conduct interviews and home inspections of all current families participating in the program. These interviews cover topics such as family lifestyle, number of family members, preferences, pets, capacity, availability, and guidelines. The home inspection includes things such as house location, transportation options, as well as bedroom, bathroom, kitchen, overall cleanliness, and safety, to verify that the home meets the school standards.

The homestay coordinator also assists the teachers and principal with processing homestay applications from prospective students and conducting student interviews. The coordinator then matches students with families based on information gathered from student applications and family records gathered from interviews and home inspection.

The coordinator also conducts follow-up checks throughout the year to make sure students are adhering to the billet code of conduct and following the rules and guidelines set out by their host family.

Surfing Academy Fees Information

In Zone students

$850.00 per year
Breakdown of payment
$250.00 deposit before January 30th.
$150.00 per term

Out-of-zone students

$1350.00 per year
Breakdown of payment
$250.00 deposit before January 30th.
$275.00 per term (This includes homestay Levy)

The full year's fees will be charged within the first term of the school year.

Homestay Students

Supervision Levy (per term) $125.00
Emergency Fund $200.00 refunded after the course.

Boarding fees are levied separately as agreed between the host family, supervisor, and parents and are not administered by the school.
Pupils will find that there are additional charges for materials and related expenses for individual subject areas. These will be outlined within the stationery accounts that are issued in the first week of the new school year. Further charges may also be levied where students choose to go on special trips or when students travel to various surf competitions.

Withdrawal

Notice of withdrawal from the Academy is required one full term in advance of the effective date. In lieu of notice being given, one term's fees are payable.

Guardians Living Overseas

It is a condition of enrolment for Home Stay students that parents/caregivers living overseas at any stage of your child's enrolment in the Surfing Academy, nominate guardians resident in New Zealand, whom the school can contact.

Timeline

Applications for enrolment, including a referee statements and a copy of the Mid-year report, as well as a letter from the applicant telling us about themselves and why they wish to be a part of the academy. This needs to be submitted by November 1st each year.

The interviews will be held from early November to early December, during which time parents/caregivers will be able to meet with staff, the Home Stay Coordinator, and view the facilities.

Students and families will be notified of the outcome by mid December.